

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO NONALIGNED MOVEMENT COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 106161

FOL KABUL 2973 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BELGRADE CAIRO
CINCPAC HAVANA ISLAMABAD LONDON MOSCOW NEW DELHI TEHRAN
USUN APRIL 18, 1978 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 2973

SECSTATE: PLEASE PASS TO NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT COLLECTIVE
FOR INFO

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG (NAMCB), AF, CU
SUBJECT: NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT COORDINATING BUREAU MEETING AT
KABUL: CURRENT AFGHAN VIEWS

1. SUMMARY: THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN (GOA) CONTINUES
TO STRIVE FOR A NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT COORDINATING BUREAU
(NAMCB) MEETING AS FREE AS POSSIBLE FROM CONTENTIOUS ISSUES.
THIS VIEW WAS MADE CLEAR RECENTLY TO A VISITING CUBAN DELE-
GATION. END OF SUMMARY

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2. ON APRIL 17, AN EMBASSY OFFICER DISCUSSED WITH MOHAMMAD
YAHYA MAROOFI, DIRECTOR OF THE AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTRY'S
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, AND U.N. AFFAIRS DIVISION, THE
APPROACHING (MAY 6-10) KABUL MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE NAMCB,
FOR WHICH HE IS ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL ORGANIZERS. MAROOFI STRESSED
THAT THE GOA IS ENDEAVORING TO KEEP THE KABUL SESSION AS FREE
FROM CONTENTIOUS ISSUES AS POSSIBLE. HE SAID THAT THIS

POSITION WAS MADE CLEAR TO AN "INFORMAL" CUBAN DELEGATION WHICH VISITED KABUL FROM APRIL 11 TO 14. ACCORDING TO MAROOFI, THE CUBANS DID NOT AT THIS TIME INDICATE ANY PLANS TO INSERT SUCH SPECIFIC ITEMS AS PUERTO RICO INTO THE KABUL AGENDA. "THEY ONLY WANTED TO LEARN ABOUT AFGHANISTAN'S VIEWS", HE EXPLAINED.

3. (COMMENT: THE CUBAN PARTY, LED BY DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER JOSE FERNANDEZ COSSIO AND AMBASSADOR JOSE LOPEZ SANCHEZ (WHO IS RESIDENT AT NEW DELHI), WERE ALLOWED TO COOL THEIR HEELS FOR A TIME AFTER THEIR ARRIVAL. ACCORDING TO MOHAMMAD SEDDIQ SALJOOQI, DIRECTOR OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S SECOND POLITICAL DIVISION (MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA), THE GOA HAS BEEN "VERY ANNOYED" AT THE PUSHY AND OVERBEARING TACTICS OF THE CUBANS -- TO SAY NOTHING OF THEIR TARNISHED CREDENTIALS AS A "NON-ALIGNED" STATE -- AND WANTED TO MAKE THIS IRRITATION CLEAR. AFTER SOME LENGTHY PROTOCOL DELAYS, THE CUBANS WERE PERMITTED TO MEET WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ABDUL SAMAD GHASUS. ALTHOUGH THEY HAD ALSO WANTED TO MEET WITH MAROOFI, HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM AN OFFICIAL TRIP TO NEW DELHI TOWARD THE END OF THEIR VISIT, AND WAS "TOO TIRED" TO SEE THEM. END OF COMMENT)

4. UNGA SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT (SSOD): THE EMBASSY OFFICER OBSERVED THAT, SINCE ONE OF THE STATED PURPOSES FOR THE NAMCB MEETING IS TO DISCUSS THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S CONFIDENTIAL

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UPCOMING SSOD (MAY 23). MAROOFI MIGHT FIND USEFUL FOR HIS BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND PLANNING A COPY OF SECRETARY VANCE'S APRIL 10 SPEECH ON ARMS CONTROL. HE ALSO PROVIDED MAROOFI WITH THE SSOD TALKING POINTS SUGGESTED IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF STATE 084734 (WITH THE CAVEATS EXPRESSED IN PARAGRAPH 2.) MAROOFI EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THIS INFORMATION, AND ASKED TO BE KEPT SUPPLIED WITH FURTHER DATA. IN THIS CONNECTION, MAROOFI MENTIONED AFGHANISTAN'S SATISFACTION OVER PRESIDENT CARTER'S RECENT DECISION TO DELAY FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEUTRON BOMB. HE SAID THAT THE GOA REGARDED THIS AS A STATESMANLIKE DECISION WHICH HAS SQUARELY PLACED THE BALL IN THE SOVIETS' COURT.

5. GUAM AND PUERTO RICO: BECAUSE THE EMBASSY OFFICER HAD DISCUSSED THE GUAM ISSUE WITH MAROOFI BEFORE THE UNGA SESSION LAST AUTUMN, HE TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO UPDATE MAROOFI'S UNDERSTANDING, UTILIZING THE GUAM TALKING POINTS PROPOSED IN PARAGRAPH 3-D OF STATE 097545. MAROOFI STATED THAT GUAM IS NOT NOW A SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEM, BUT COULD POSSIBLY BE RAISED UNDER AN AGENDA TOPIC DEALING WITH "THE QUESTION OF MILITARY BASES IN NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES". MAROOFI GAVE HIS ASSURANCES THAT IF THE GUAM ISSUE WERE RAISED, THE GOA WOULD HANDLE IT

WITH THE "SAME UNDERSTANDING" THEY DISPLAYED AT THE LAST SESSION OF THE UNGA. HE EXTENDED THIS ASSURANCE TO COVER THE PUERTO RICO ISSUE AS WELL. (COMMENT: AFGHANISTAN'S PERFORMANCE ON BOTH ISSUES AT THE LAST UNGA WAS HELPFUL FROM OUR VIEWPOINT. IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, HOWEVER, THE GOA ALWAYS AVOIDS BECOMING TOO DISTANCED FROM THE "CONSENSUS" POSITIONS OF ITS NON-ALIGNED COLLEAGUES ON SUCH ISSUES. END OF COMMENT). ELIOT UNQUOTE VANCE

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